apparently let the cat among the pigeons by talking the other day about the Centre's preparedness to hold talks on the [illegible] for greater autonomy for Jammu a[illegible] if so, what actually he means by regio[illegible] autonomy;

(b) whether it is also a fact, tha[illegible] speculation about whether the Jam[illegible] intends to concede Farooq Abdulla[illegible] for a pre-1953 status and whether [illegible] ernment concede or deny this with co-gent explanation;

(c) whether it is a fact that any talk on autonomy can only be held between the elected representatives of the State and the Union, if so, wether Government would consider the above mentioned statement of the [illegible] Minister as uncalled for; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) to (d) Government has consistently reiterated its willingness for dialogue and discussions with any group or persons willing to cooperate towards creating conditions conducive to normalcy and peace and restoration of the democratic process in Jammu and Kashmir. In this context, Government is also carefully watching the developing debate at the political level and various ideas and suggestions that are being expressed. It would, however, be premature to say anything more in his respect at this stage.

Hurriyat's Terms for Taking part in Jammu Polls

2590. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated 18th October, 1994 under the caption "Hurriyat's terms for taking part in Poll";

(b) if so, what are the details of terms announced in the All Parties Hurriyat Conference for participating in the election proposed to be held in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) what is the reaction of Government of India in regard thereto; and

(d) what is the number of Hurriyat leaders who have since been released and the extent to which Kashmir problem has been solved as a result of the release of those leaders ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Under the Constitution and the Law, there are well established procedures and regulations for the conduct of elections in J & K, under the supervision of the Election Commission. In these circumstances, Government does not visualise any role for any external agency as mentioned in the report.

(d) Some of the prominent persons released in recent months include S/Shri S.A.S. [illegible], A.G. Lone, Yasin Malik and Shabir Shah. Together with various other measures taken by the Government, such releases have had a positive impact on the situation in the State.

Financial Assistance to Jammu and Kashmir

2591. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to provide finance to Jammu and Kashmir to tide over the cash crunch;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of prospects for advancing the grants;

(c) whether Government are aware that a large sum of money earmarked for development purposes such as maintenance of roads, drinking water facilities, was not spent on those works during the last three years and if so, whether Government propose to conduct an enquiry into the matter to ascertain the factual position in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any machinery has been set up to monitor the Utilization of funds allocated for that State and if not, the reasons therefor ?